

new business



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lms sports



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Relay for Life to kick off at city hall on March 1

by Emma Palova

This year's Relay for Life will kick off at the city hall on March 1 to generate excitement among teams and community members.

The main purpose of the kick-off is to show the community how to get involved, according to Jaime Counterman, community representative for the American Cancer Society.

"It's a way to get the community excited for the event coming in summer," said Counterman.

The event this year will be held on June 22 and June 23 at the Red Arrow football stadium.

In the meantime, the kick-off will present opportunities for sponsorship of the event, as well as opportunities for individuals, friends, families and companies to have a team on the track. The teams can



Participants from Relay For Life 2011 celebrate life.

be composed of survivors, caregivers and sponsors as well.

"Our goal is to always have someone from the team on the track for 24

hours. Because cancer never sleeps, neither do we," she said.

The kick-off event starts at 6 pm and it is open to the public. Food will be

served and a "survivor" speaker will present a success story. It should be completed by 7 pm.

"We're hoping for new people to get involved and

for new teams," said Counterman.

The other purpose of the kick-off is to show peo-

Relay for Life, continued, page 3



Active part of the railroad crosses West Main.

Study to explore connectivity between two rail trail points

by Emma Palova

A future Lowell Area Recreation Authority (LARA) study will determine how to connect two rail trail points between Lowell to Belding on Foreman Road and Lowell to Ionia near Montcalm Avenue and Grand River Avenue.

"It's the only gap in the entire 125-mile rail trail system between Owosso and Alma," said Williams and Works consultant Dave Austin.

The rail between the two points on the trails going through downtown is not abandoned. It is used

by King Milling as an active railroad crossing West Main Street.

The \$9,000 study is funded by a grant from Department of Natural Resources and from Frey Foundation.

Rail trails, continued, page 2

City negotiates contract with IBEW union

by Emma Palova

The city is in the process of negotiating a contract with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union, (IBEW).

The contract will impact a total of 13 city employees, five from Lowell Light and Power and eight from the Department of Public Works, including the Water Plant.

The majority of workers voted to join the IBEW on Dec. 16 with two voting against.

The parties have started negotiations and they have held one session.

"With negotiations pending, we have nothing on which to comment at this time," said city manager Mark Howe.

Department of Public Works director Dan DesJarden also declined to comment.

The IBEW represents workers in a wide variety of skilled fields, including utilities, construction, telecommunications, broadcasting, manufacturing, railroads and government.

The IBEW has members in both the United States and Canada and stands out among the American unions in the AFL-CIO because it is among the largest and it has members in many skilled occupations.

The union was certified by the Michigan Employment Relations Commission on January 3.

The Lowell Police Department also has unionized officers.

Five police officers from the Lowell Police Department joined the Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council during the last contract negotiations in July of

2010. Their current contract expires on June 30, 2013. They switched from Police Officers Association of

Michigan (POAM) during the last contract.

Chief Barry Getzen estimated that approximate-

ly four contracts have been negotiated over the last 12 years.



Five employees of Lowell Light and Power to join the IBEW.

50 CENTS



Rail trails, continued

Phase II will connect two endpoints between the Fred Meijer Grand River Valley Trail and Fred Meijer Flat River Valley Trail.

The interconnection of trails is part of the overall master plan for the Lowell Area Trailway system.

The study will look for alternatives to guide people through Lowell, according to Austin.

These may include new pathways, using existing sidewalks and streets, signage, striping and eventually a pedestrian bridge across Grand River.

“At some point the trail will have to cross the river,” said Austin.

The existing bridges across the Grand River can-



Active part of the railroad used by King Milling.

not be used because there is not enough space for a pedestrian crossing. There are two existing bridges: one is on South Hudson Street and the other is located north of town on Jackson Street. There is also an existing inactive railroad bridge coming from Monroe Street.

An ideal situation would have been if the tracks were torn out and then the gap could have been closed.

“It’s an important piece to figure out how to tie these points together,” Austin said.

The regional trailway master plan seeks to link together the city of Lowell, Vergennes Township and Lowell Township. With the rails to trails connection,

it will also link Lowell to Belding and Ionia.

The first phase of LARA trailway was completed last fall. It connects Cherry Creek Elementary to the high school and Wittenbach/Wege Nature Center.

The North Country National Scenic Trail (NCTA) has its headquarters in Lowell and it has created the newest segment from Grindle to the Boy Scout Cabin on Washington.

It is the goal for the area trailways to connect important elements, such as parks, schools, public facilities, businesses; as well as to provide a safe place for hikers, walkers, cyclists, runners, in-line skaters, cross country skiers and snowshoers to experience nature.



along main street

college news

James Flanagan, a Hope College junior from Ada, is studying at The Philadelphia Center in Pennsylvania

during the 2012 spring semester.

Flanagan is the son of Patrick and Tina Flanagan and a graduate of Lowell High School.

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HEALTHY HEART SEMINAR

A free healthy heart seminar will be held Thurs., Feb. 23, 6:30-8:00 pm, in the Y Childcare Room at Cherry Creek Elementary. Gather information and hear the latest research from an MD, a dietician and a dental specialist on how to keep your heart healthy. Call 897-8445 to register.

CALL FOR AUDITIONS

Thebes Players will present The Odd Couple (dinner theatre) from April 27 – May 12. Auditions for the play are on Sat., Mar. 3 at 10 am and Mon., Mar. 5 at 6 pm at Lowell Public Library. For more information and to borrow a script call or visit LowellArts! at 897-8545 / 149 S. Hudson.

LOWELL MOOSE LODGE

The Lowell Moose Lodge #809 will celebrate its 100th birthday with an open house on Sat., Feb. 25. There will be breakfast from 10 am to 12 noon, with a short history and orientation about the Moose and its goals and principles.

SWISS SETTLERS WORKSHOP

The Lowell Area Historical Museum will be hosting a Swiss Settlers Workshop for youth on Sat., Feb. 25 at the Wittenbach/Wege Center from 9 am to 2 pm. Activities will include arts and crafts that were popular to the early Swiss settlers. Class size is limited so register early. For more information or to register, call Linda at the museum, 897-7688.

LYONS HOSTS IN-DISTRICT HOURS

Residents can meet with state Rep. Lisa Posthumus Lyons on Monday, Feb. 27 to discuss state and local issues and share ideas with the lawmaker. Lyons will be at the Ada Township Municipal Offices, located at 7330 Thornapple River Dr. from 9:30 to 11 a.m. No appointment is necessary. Contact Lyons' Lansing office at (517) 373-0846 or by e-mailing her at LisaLyons@house.mi.gov.

Feel free to send your event information to the Ledger for Along Main St. All submission requests for Along Main St. are subject to space limitations. The Ledger makes no assurances that they will appear in print. To ensure that an event notification will appear in the Ledger, it is best to place a paid advertisement. All efforts will be made to place suitable items in the Along Main St. column but they are printed at the discretion of the publisher. For profit events, church services, yard sales and the like, will not appear in this column.

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Team to visit digester in Germany to field off odor concerns

by Emma Palova

A team consisting of members from the Lowell Light and Power (LLP) Board and the city will travel to Germany in May to explore bio-digesters due to the upcoming construction of a similar \$3.4 million facility in Lowell.

According to general manager Greg Pierce, some people in the community have raised questions about potential odor coming from the facility that will convert food and agricultural waste into bio-gas.

The utility has chosen a German design of the bio-digester that has not been yet utilized in the United States, but it is being used in rural German communities without any odor.

“We believe that part of our due diligence regarding this system is to have first-hand experience regarding the potential odor concern,” he said.

And although the facility has been designed to avoid any potential odor, smelling one is the only real test, according to Pierce.

The team seeks to obtain first-hand information on the operation in Germany and on any potential odor concerns, since Lowell will be the first in the country with a similar facility.

The project, where the bio-gas will be converted into electricity and sold to LLP, is being developed by a local company.

As a consequence, the cost of the electricity will

be less than LLP is currently paying for renewable energy and ultimately it will provide savings to the utility and to the customers, according to Pierce.

A portion of the cost of the project will be reimbursed to the developers through a federal grant. In five years, LLP will have the option to purchase the facility at a reduced price.

“This could afford the utility and the citizens of Lowell even more savings,” said Pierce.

Bio-gas generated by the facility is a renewable energy source that will allow LLP to meet the State Renewable Energy Standard. The standard requires that 10 percent of the utility’s energy must be renewable by 2015.

The construction of the bio-digester facility is expected to start this summer and the developers hope to have it running before the end of 2012.

The bio-digester is also being viewed as a potential economic development tool for the community. Coupled with lower electric costs, the facility could draw more food processing companies to Lowell.

Litehouse will be one of the major users of the

bio-digester for processing of their waste products directly in Lowell.

“It is an economic benefit to the Litehouse operation,” said Pierce. “Likewise, it could benefit other food processing companies.”

Relay for Life, continued

ple how raised money is spent in the communities.

For example, the Hope Lodge, located on Jefferson Street in Grand Rapids, provides a place for the families of cancer patients to come in and stay for free for the duration of treatment or testing.

Jerry Holmes of Great Clips is one of 15 local volunteers who are involved in the planning of the event.

Holmes has been with the Relay on a team for the last five years. Currently, he is serving on the planning committee and helping out with the marketing of the Relay.

“We feel it’s an effort beneficial to the community,” he said. “A portion of the funds comes back to West Michigan.”

Relay, a leading fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, has raised \$320,000 over the last six years in Lowell.

The goal is to have 24 teams in Lowell and to raise \$69,000 this year.

The event, that runs from noon to noon, opens with cancer survivors’ and caregivers’ lap. Holmes estimates approximately 200 participants walking in the opening lap.

A very moving part of the event is the luminary ceremony at dusk on Friday. The track will be outlined with white bags carrying names of people battling cancer and those who died. There will also be a dinner.

“It’s an emotional time for participants and family members,” Holmes said.

The planning committee is inviting the community to come together to the kick-off and to get involved.

“It’s emotional, inspiring and motivational,” Holmes said. “It’s an opportunity for everyone to come together to learn about the Relay.”

New and existing teams can sign up during the kick-off.

There are certain categories of teams that have come together over the years. These may be teams from businesses, churches, families and friends.

“We hope for everyone to come and learn about Relay,” said Holmes.

For more information go to: www.relayforlife.org/lowellmi

A politician thinks of the next election. A statesman, of the next generation.

~ James Freeman Clarke

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Presidential primary Q & A

Do I have to be a registered Republican or Democrat to participate in Michigan's Feb. 28, 2012 presidential primary?

No. Michigan's presidential primary has been designated a "closed primary." However, there is no political party registration requirement in Michigan Election Law governing voter registration. Any Michigan registered voter can participate. By law, you must make your ballot selection in writing and will do so on Election Day in the polls on the Application to Vote/Ballot Selection form if voting in person. If voting absentee, your ballot application form will have

a space for you to choose whether you want to vote a Republican or Democratic ballot.

Why do I have to select a party ballot?

In late 2011, the Michigan legislature passed a law (Public Act 163 of 2011) that guides the conduct of the Feb. 28, 2012 presidential primary. The law requires that voters indicate in writing which political party ballot he or she wishes to vote. This requirement only applies to presidential primary elections and voters will not be required to select a political party ballot type in writing at other types of elections.

What is the difference between an "open" primary and a "closed" primary?

Voters in an "open" primary are given a ballot with a column listing each qualified party's candidates. Voters then decide which party primary they wish to participate in by voting only in the column of their party choice while in the privacy of the voting station. Voting for candidates in more than a single party's column will void the entire partisan ballot.

Voters in "closed" primaries must state the party primary they wish to participate in before being issued a ballot. The ballot given to voters only shows the party that corresponds to their choice.

Will Michigan's "closed" presidential primary procedures affect the Aug. 7 primary in any way?

No. The August primary is an "open" primary. Voters will not be asked to select a party before voting in the August primary. Voters will be issued ballots containing all political par-

ties and their candidates and will select one of the parties in the privacy of the voting station.

When I select a party ballot for the presidential primary, does that mean I have to vote in the same party primary in August?

No. The written selection made by a voter at the Feb. 28, 2012 presidential primary has no bearing on how a person votes in the Aug. 7, 2012 regular primary election.

Will my ballot selection be made public?

Yes. By law a public list must be made available that includes the presidential primary ballot type chosen by each voter in the Feb. 28, 2012 presidential primary. This list must be made available by May 9, 2012. County, city and township clerks must retain the forms indicating each voter's presidential primary ballot selection for 22 months. This ballot selection information is subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Infor-

mation Act. The public list of voters' presidential primary ballot selections and the documents containing this information held by local clerks must be destroyed after the 22-month retention period expires.

Who is on the ballot?

Public Act 163 of 2011 included detailed requirements related to which candidates would be eligible and how names would be placed on Michigan's presidential primary ballot. By law, both Republican and Democratic Party candidates are listed, but on separate ballots.

By November 11, 2011, the law required the Secretary of State to issue a list of individuals "generally advocated by the national news media to be potential presidential candidates." Republican candidates on the list issued included Michele Bachmann, Herman Cain, Newt Gingrich, Jon Huntsman, Gary Johnson, Fred Karger, Ron Paul, Rick Perry, Buddy Roemer, Mitt Romney and Rick Santorum. The Democratic list of candidates only included President Barack Obama.

The two political parties had the ability to add candidates in the following week.

The Republican Party provided a list containing the same names as the Secretary of State's list. The Democratic Party did not add any names.

Candidates had until Dec. 9, 2011 to formally withdraw their names from Michigan's ballot. None of these candidates did so before the deadline. Although some of these candidates have since suspended their campaigns nationally, state law required that the candidate listing be finalized in December 2011.

Voters also will have the option of voting "uncommitted" on either the Republican or Democratic ballot.

What does an "uncommitted" vote mean?

If enough voters cast "uncommitted" votes, the party may send delegates to the national nominating convention who are not committed to a specific candidate.

Primary Q & A,
continued, page 7

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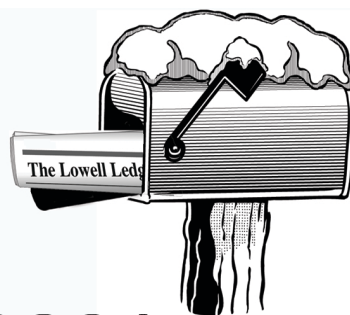
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Why newspaper advertising still matters

by Tom Edmonds

Convinced that fewer and fewer voters are turning to newspapers? Think again.

Just as soon as you're sure about a new trend, a survey comes out and says, "Not so fast. That's not exactly true."

For instance, take a look at the "givens" in this year's political landscape. Young voters are increasingly turning to the Internet for campaign news, right? Wrong. But at least Twitter and Facebook play big roles when it comes to getting campaign information,

right? Wrong. And nobody but senior citizens gets their news from newspapers anymore, right? Wrong. Wrong. Wrong.

For starters, take a look at the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press survey released earlier this month. The survey of over 1,500 adults (read that 18 plus) conducted January 4-8 found that young adults - 18-29 year olds - who get their campaign news online declined from a high of 42 percent in 2008 to just 29 percent today.

Even among Facebook and Twitter users, Pew re-

ports that "most say they hardly ever or never learn about the campaigns or candidates through those sources." Where then do young voters get their campaign news (if they get it at all)? Maybe they're among the nine percent that rely on late-night comedy shows to find out what's going on. Should we be concerned that this big important voting bloc is not serious about our elections? Well, maybe not.

Under 30s were only 18 percent of the total voters in 2008. I guess there was no "rock" in Rock the Vote. In

fact, this group was the least likely to actually show up and vote. The most reliable voting bloc? That would be seniors by a mile. In fact, 70 percent of Americans 65+ voted in the last major election followed by 69 percent of those 45-64. Step back please and let the lady in the wheelchair through.

I know what you're thinking. Where do the most likely voters get their campaign news? Well it's not late-night comedy shows or Twitter, that's for sure.

Why advertising matters, continued, page 7

financial focus



Christopher C. Godbold

Put power of tax deferral to work

As an investor, you may sometimes feel frustrated. After all, your portfolio seems to be at the mercy of the financial markets, whose volatility is beyond anyone's control. Yet you can control the quality of the investments you own and the diversification of those investments to improve your chances of attaining your long-term financial goals. One way in which to do so is to put as much as you can afford, year after year, into tax-deferred investments.

When you contribute to a tax-deferred account, your money has the potential to grow faster than it would if you placed it in a fully taxable investment — that is, an investment on which you paid taxes every year. Over time, this accelerated growth can add up to a big difference in your accumulated savings. For example, if you put \$200 each month into a taxable investment that earned a hypothetical seven percent a year, you'd end up with about \$325,000 after 40 years, assuming you were in the 25 percent federal tax bracket. If you put that same \$200 per month into a tax-deferred investment that earned the same hypothetical seven percent a year, you'd accumulate about \$515,000 — or nearly \$200,000 more than you'd have with the taxable investment.*

Of course, you will eventually have to pay taxes on the tax-deferred investment, but by the time you're retired, you might be in a lower tax bracket. Furthermore, depending on how much you choose to withdraw each year from your tax-deferred account, you can have some control over the amount of taxes you'll pay.

Clearly, tax deferral can be a smart choice, but what sort of tax-deferred vehicles are available?

One of your most attractive choices will be your em-

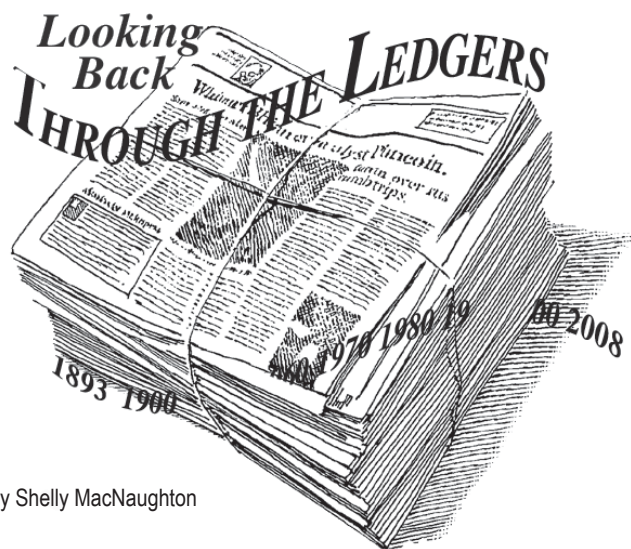
ployer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k). Your earnings have the potential to grow on a tax-deferred basis, and since you typically fund your plan with pre-tax dollars, the more you put in, the lower your annual taxable income. If you're lucky, your employer will even match some of your contributions. Consequently, it's almost always a good idea to put in as much as you can afford into your 401(k), up to the contribution limits, and to boost your contributions every time your salary increases. In 2012, you can contribute up to \$17,000 to your 401(k), plus an additional \$5,500 if you're 50 or older.

Even if you participate in a 401(k) plan, you can probably also contribute to a traditional IRA. Your earnings have the potential to grow tax-deferred and your contributions may be tax deductible, depending on your income level. In 2012, you can put in up to \$5,000 to a traditional IRA, or \$6,000 if you're 50 or older. (If you meet certain income guidelines, you might be eligible to contribute to a Roth IRA, which offers tax-free earnings, provided you don't start taking withdrawals until you're 59-1/2 and you've had your account at least five years.)

Finally, if you've "maxed out" on both your 401(k) and your IRA, you may want to consider a fixed annuity. Your earnings grow tax-deferred, contribution limits are high, and you can structure your annuity to provide you with an income stream you can't outlive.

The more years in which you invest in tax-deferred vehicles, the better. So start putting the power of tax deferral to work soon.

*This hypothetical example is for illustrative purposes only and does not represent a specific investment or investment strategy.



By Shelly MacNaughton

faithfulness, endeared him to his employers and gave him a high standing among the extensive business concerns with whom he dealt for many years.

75 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger and Alto Solo February 25, 1937

A record of forty-eight years of continuous service on Main St. is something worthy of more than passing notice. The honor goes to Burt A. Charles, who started to learn the barber's trade here on March 1, 1889, and who has been continuously on the job during all the intervening years. During this time, Burt has no doubt cut through enough whiskers to border the entire coastline of the United States with enough left over to make a flounce around Puerto Rico.

50 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger February 22, 1962

Seymour Hesche, formerly of Route 2, Lowell; now residing at Route 1, Mesa, Arizona; was recently elected to head the Arizona Poultry Federation in 1962.

This Thursday night at 9:00 pm in the Ag. room of the Lowell High School, Mr. John W. Metzen of Chemagro Corporation, and Mr. Robert Homrich of Haviland Agricultural Chemical Co., will present the Lowell Area Adult Farmer Forum with the very latest information regarding crop and livestock chemicals.

25 Years Ago The Grand Valley Ledger February 25, 1987

While heavy rains virtually washed out the fall steelhead season, spring runs should be bolstered by a strong return to parent streams by three and four-year-old steelhead, reports AAA of Michigan.

The first push of spring steelhead runs started in early February in many Southern Michigan streams but slowed later when temperatures dropped. Generally, steelhead runs peak when the water temperature reaches 45 to 60 degrees. Traditionally, best results are from late March to mid April in Southern Michigan and from mid-April to early May in Central, Northern and Upper Peninsula Michigan.

110 Years Ago The Lowell Journal February 27, 1902

This morning, J. S. Johnson, of Almont, father of F. M. Johnson, was found in an unconscious condition, owing to coal gas. At this hour of going to press, he is in a critical condition.

Mrs. Fitzgibbons will be at Hotel Waverly, March 7 and 8, for the purpose of removing all facial blemishes by electrolysis, consultation free.

100 Years Ago The Lowell Ledger February 29, 1912

Orton Hill passed away at his home in this village, Saturday, Feb. 24, after an illness of three years, aged nearly 64 years. Burial in Oakwood cemetery.

Mr. Hill was a charter member of Lowell Masonic Lodge and was also connected with the higher degrees of order in Grand Rapids. Since the founding of the City State Bank, of which he was chief promoter, he has been one of its officers and directors, this being identified with the commercial interests of Lowell. His concern for the material welfare of his hometown was further evidenced by his membership in the Board of Trade and his interest in all the various enterprises furthered by it.

Mr. Hill was a jovial and cheerful disposition, making friends everywhere he went. He enjoyed a good story and could tell one himself. These qualities together with his strict integrity, indefatigable industry and

engagements

Sombraske/Craig



Jason Craig and Michelle Sombraske

Michelle Sombraske and Alan and Sue Craig of Lowell. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Tinley Park High School and Western Illinois University and the future groom a graduate of Lowell High School and Ferris State University.

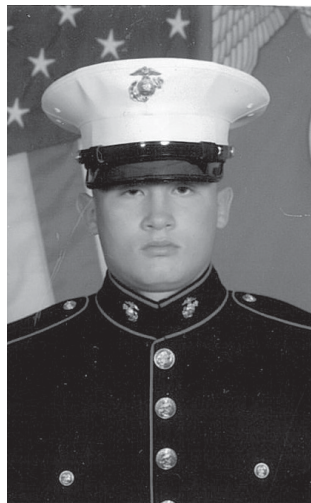
In The Service

Pvt. James A. Dilling, USMC; graduated 1st BN, Bravo Co. Platoon 1025 on January 6, 2012, MCRD San Diego, CA.

Navy Seaman Alexander W. Steinbrenner, son of Jill S. and stepson of Richard P. Brailey of Lowell, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Steinbrenner completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confidence they need to succeed in the fleet. "Battle Stations" is designed to galvanize the basic warrior attributes of sacrifice, dedication, teamwork and endurance in each recruit through the practical application of basic Navy skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.



Pvt. James A. Dilling,

Steinbrenner is a 2008 graduate of River Valley Academy of Rockford.

Navy Seaman apprentice Adam M. Hubert, son of Sarah G. and Arvin P. Hubert of Lowell, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

During the eight-week program, Hubert completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

The capstone event of boot camp is "Battle Stations." This exercise gives recruits the skills and confi-

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skills and the core values of honor, courage and commitment. Its distinctly "Navy" flavor was designed to take into account what it means to be a sailor.

Hubert is a 2011 graduate of Lowell High School.

health



With Drs. Paul Gauthier, Jim Lang, Wayne A. Christenson III, John G. Meier & Tracy Lixie

lazy eye in children

A "lazy eye," or amblyopia, is a condition where a child may lose vision in one or both eyes. Amblyopia can occur if a child has one eye that moves differently from the other. It can also occur if one eye sees less well than the other.

A child with symptoms of amblyopia might look cross-eyed when looking in certain directions, hold things close to their face to see, sit close to the TV and have trouble watching things that are moving in front of them.

If a child is showing symptoms of amblyopia,

they should see their health-care provider right away. Early diagnosis and treatment can prevent permanent vision loss. All children should be seen by their health-care provider at 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18 and 24 months of age and then yearly for well child or physical exams. Regular physical exams can help detect the symptoms of amblyopia early.

If detected early, amblyopia can usually be treated with an eye patch for a period of time. Sometimes surgery may be necessary.

the lowell ledger

P.O. Box 128
Lowell, MI 49331
897-9261

OFFICE HOURS
Monday - Thursday:
8 am - 5 pm
Friday: 8 am - 2 pm
Closed Sat. & Sun.

area churches

LOWELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

201 N. Washington
Lowell, MI • 897-8800
Pastor Wes Hershberger
Sundays - Christian Education.....9:15 a.m.
Celebration.....10:40 a.m.
Wednesdays - Kid's Service, Teen's Service,
Adult Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

Lowell Naz - Where People Matter



CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER (Assembly of God)

3050 Alden Nash S.E. • 897-1100 • Staffed Nursery
Robert Holmes, Pastor
SUNDAYS:
Worship: 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS:
Family Night (for all ages): 7:00 p.m.
"The Source" Youth: 7:00 p.m.
Loving God ... Loving People!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOWELL

2275 West Main Street • 897-7168
Internet: <http://www.fbclowell.org>
Rev. Jon Pickens
Rev. W. Lee Taylor & Pastor Phil Severn
Sun. Worship Service.....9:30 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.
Sunday School Hour/ABF's.....11:00 A.M.
AWANA 6-8/Youth Ministry.....Wed. 6:15 P.M.
Contact Church Office For Prayer Meeting Times
Nursery Provided • Barrier Free

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF LOWELL

897-7060
Pastor Rod Galindo
1151 West Main Street, Lowell, MI
Morning Worship.....10:00 A. M.
Sunday School.....11:20 A.M.
Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.
Nursery available at both services
Barrier-Free

SNOW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3189 Snow Ave. SE, Lowell
Pastor Dr. Mike Conklin
9:45 A.M.Sunday School
10:30 A.M.Fellowship
11:00 A.M.Worship
897-9863
Nursery & Children
Worship Programs Provided
A friend...a family...a mission!

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

402 Amity St. • 897-9820
www.stmary-lowell.com
Weekend Masses: SAT. 5 PM; SUN. 9:30 AM
Saturday confessions: 3-4:30 PM
Prayer & adoration each Wed. 8:00 AM - 8 PM
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CHILDREN TO ADULTS - CALL PETE WIGGINS 897-7915
SEE LOWELL CABLE CH. 393, EWTN FOR 24 HR. CATHOLIC BROADCASTING



FEBRUARY 22

Kevin Gerard, Lloyd Powell, Rob Tulecki, Julie Shaffer, Jessie Dale Abel, Krista Foster.

FEBRUARY 23

Joe Ellis, Heather Essich, Sharon Miles.

Hall for rent with kitchen

SEATS 150
Located at the fairgrounds

www.kcfg.org
Call 897-6050

FEBRUARY 24

Cliff Mulder, Tarah Essich, Lizzy Decker.

FEBRUARY 25

Mike Nearing.

FEBRUARY 26

Jeremy Goff, Barry Vezino, Bob Ford, Nancy Porter, Leslie Rash.

FEBRUARY 27

Joshua Soyka, Justin Soyka.

FEBRUARY 28

Mark V. Ritzema, Connie Roth, Scott Denton, Claesara Guastavino, Skylar Brown, Sarah Hoag, Ed Lamberson.

Your local agent insures your

Auto



Mark Johnson, LUTCF
6095 28th Street
Grand Rapids

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE



616-940-8181
mjohnso@fbinsmi.com
FarmBureauInsurance.com

LHS February Students of the Month

In conjunction with the LHS Academic Boosters, Lowell High School has announced that Hannah Burt, 11th grade; and Jeremiah Raymor, 11th grade; are the Lowell High School February Students of the Month. In order to be eligible for this honor a student must be nominated by a department. All the nomination forms for the month are then reviewed and voted on at the monthly Department Chair Meeting. Students are selected based on academic achievement, character and work ethic. There are 1200 students eligible for nomination, so this is quite an accomplishment

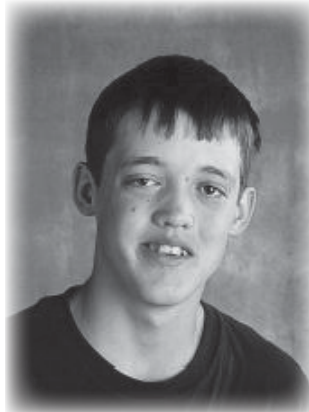


Hannah Burt

for Burt and Raymor. The students receive a \$20 movie gift card and a certificate.

Burt was nominated by the math department and they write, "It is hard not

to truly be impressed with her as a student and young adult. While she has been very successful academically in the classroom, it is her personality and work ethic that define her as a role model and leader within the school community. Hannah has a quiet confidence and truly respects the educational process. She engages in classroom lectures and asks probing, thought provoking questions. At the same time, she is always willing to help other students better understand material and allow others' success. Hannah's success in the classroom combined with her ability to



Jeremiah Raymor

go the extra mile, is a result of focus and willingness to work hard and I am not sure she realizes how hard of a worker she is!"

The English department nominated Raymor and they write, "He has always had an inquisitive mind and interesting insights to share with the class. Jeremiah is respectful, follows the rules, does his assigned work and always has a positive attitude along with a great sense of humor. Ordinarily this description fits most of our students, but the main reason that we are nominating Jeremiah is for the past month Jeremiah has taken it upon himself to help a fellow student. This student does nothing all hour (basically he has done nothing for three years), Jeremiah moved his seat next to this student and each day he encourages the other student to stay on task

and to complete the assignments. Every time I hear Jeremiah make a statement like 'Come on let's get this done' or 'Dude there is only a few more questions to do,' it makes me smile. I have tried everything I can think of to motivate this kid, but it's Jeremiah that is reaching him. I'm proud of Jeremiah for taking on this task. It shows great maturity and a willingness to help others."

This program is made possible by the support of the LHS Academic Boosters, who support the high school in many ways. If you are interested in helping support the LHS Academic Boosters you may call Janine Mork at 897-5671.

Primary Q & A, continued

Will there be other things on the presidential primary ballot?

A number of local jurisdictions are holding special elections in conjunction with the Feb. 28, 2012 presidential primary. Voters who do not wish to cast a vote in the presidential primary but want to vote in their local special election have the option of selecting a ballot containing only the local contests. A list of communities holding elections in conjunction with the presiden-

tial primary is available on our website at www.Michigan.gov/elections

Can voters be challenged based on foreclosure information?

No. The compilation of home foreclosure information alone does not provide sufficient reason to challenge a person's voting status.

Where can I find more information?

For more information on your voter registration status, polling place, issues that will appear on your ballot, the absentee voting process and more, please visit the Michigan Voter Information Center at www.Michigan.gov/vote. For a detailed history of presidential primaries in Michigan, please visit www.Michigan.gov/elections. (See "February 28, 2012 Presidential Primary Information")

Why advertising matters, continued

It's actually newspapers. A whopping 80 percent of voters 35 and older are regular readers of newspapers in print or online. Yes, I said online. According to another national survey in January of this year, Moore Information's American Voters Media Use Study, one in four Americans report using a mobile device for campaign news and of those, newspaper sources are the number one choice for 58 percent. Even among young voters who do use smartphones et al. for campaign news, a whopping 62 percent go to newspaper sources. And it's not just "mobile devices." Newspaper websites rank number one in 22 of the top 25 largest markets.

Need more proof that newspapers have made a comeback when it comes to political news and advertising? In the 2002 elections, the newspaper industry collected a paltry \$35 million for political advertising. It's likely that more money was spent on bumper stickers

that year. But fast forward to 2010 and the newspaper industry increased their take nearly tenfold to over \$300 million in political ad sales.

So, will newspaper advertising be hyped as the hot new trendy thing for the 2012 elections? Not likely. Then again, just when you're sure you know something for certain it turns out not to be true. But hey, maybe

even Jimmy Kimmel reads a newspaper every now and then. But I wouldn't know. I'm asleep by then.

Tom Edmonds is a veteran political media consultant based in Washington, D.C. He is past president of the American Association of Political Consultants and the current chairman of the International Association of Political Consultants.

PUZZLE SOLUTION

M	E	A	L	S		M	E	W		B	R	A	E	
A	L	L	A	H		O	V	A		C	O	U	P	E
C	L	A	R	E		L	A	C		O	R	D	E	R
H	A	R	V	A	R	D		K	E	N	N	E	D	Y
		A	T	E		G	O	O	F					
E	L	F		H	A	I	R		N	E	B	U	L	A
D	A	R	K		C	R	A	G		R	A	T	E	D
E	P	E	E		T	E	N	O	R		R	E	N	A
M	A	Y	E	R		S	A	R	A		B	R	I	M
A	Z	A	L	E	A		R	E	D	O		I	N	S
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W	R	I	G	G	L	Y		L	I	N	C	O	L	N
H	A	L	M	A		A	G	E		A	M	N	I	A
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M	E	A	N			S	P	A		E	S	S	E	S

An election is coming. Universal peace is declared and the foxes have a sincere interest in prolonging the lives of the poultry.

~T.S. Eliot

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO.
12-191690-DE

Estate of BARBARA JEAN GARNETT. Date of birth: 05/03/1932.

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: TO THE decedent, Barbara Jean Garnett, died 02/06/2012.

Creditors of the decedent are notified

that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Dorothy Joyce Lehmann, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 180 Ottawa Avenue NW, Ste. 2400, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

2/21/2012

Dorothy Joyce Lehmann
4121 Weymouth Dr. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508
616-455-3618

BOWNE TOWNSHIP CITY OF LOWELL LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP VERGENNES TOWNSHIP NOTICE

ABSENTEE VOTER INFORMATION

The City and Township Clerks will be available at the following locations on Saturday, February 25, 2012 for any registered voter who would like to apply for or return an absentee voters ballot for the February 28, 2012 Presidential Primary Election.

Sandra Kowalczyk
Bowne Township
11am - 2pm
8240 Alden Nash
Alto, MI 49302
(616) 868-6846

Betty Morlock
City of Lowell
11am - 2pm
301 East Main
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-8457

Linda S. Regan
Lowell Charter Township
11am - 2pm
2910 Alden Nash SE
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-7600

Mari Stone
Vergennes Township
11am - 2pm
10381 Bailey Dr
Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-5671

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St. Patrick's Class of 2016



St. Patrick Class of 2007
LHS 2011 Honors Students

- ♣ 119 Years of Faith-filled Education
- ♣ Fully Accredited Preschool - 8th Grade, Individualized Learning
- ♣ Classroom SmartBoards, Art, Music, Gym, Computer Lab, Library, Field Trips
- ♣ Special Education Services provided by Lowell Area Schools
- ♣ Middle School Sports Program and Extracurricular Activities
- ♣ Daily Prayer, Weekly Liturgy & Community Service

School Information Meet & Greet

Sunday, March 4, 11:30-1:00pm following 10:30 Mass

Preschool - 8th Grade

Visit Classrooms & Meet Teachers

See the Science Fair & Shop the Used Book Sale

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Families New to the School, Half Price First Year Tuition!

(applies to fulltime K-8 programs)



We Are St. Pat's!

691-8833

4333 Parnell Ave. NE

www.stpatrickparnellsschool.org

scottczarnopys@gmail.com

Red Arrow SPORTS

- BASKETBALL

Arrows outscore Yellow Jackets 39-31

by Karen Jack

The girls' basketball team got one step closer to moving up the ranks in the OK White conference on Friday night, with their win against Greenville, outscoring the Yellow Jackets by a score of 39-31.

Securing third place in the conference, the girls

started off strong with possession of the ball, then turned the ball over. Greenville brought it down the court, shot and missed. With a rebound from senior Lauren Kurtz, Lowell took the ball down the court and Kurtz put it in for

two, which put Lowell up by four.

Both teams had several turnovers in the first quarter, but Lowell led at the end of the quarter by a score of 8-7.

Greenville started out the second quarter with possession of the ball and then

was fouled on a jumper. At the line, Greenville missed both shots and Lowell got the rebound, sending it down the court where senior Amber Martin sunk a three-pointer to make Lowell go up by six. Greenville came back and scored, to cut the lead by four.

After several turnovers from each team, Lowell led at the end of the third quarter 23-19.

The fourth quarter was where all the action was. With 3:54 left, Lauren Kurtz shot, missed, rebounded her own shot and then put it up for two. With 1:13 left and the score being 32-28, Greenville went in for a shot, made it and was fouled by Lowell, making it a possible three-point play.

Greenville sunk the foul shot to make it 32-31. Danielle Ordway made a key rebound with 49 seconds left in the game, to give Lowell



Senior Stephanie Stevens slides by Greenville's Taylor Baker.



Jessica Montgomery defends the basket.

Girls' basketball, continued, page 11

Boys falls short against Greenville Friday night

Three players suspended after incident earlier in the week

by Karen Jack

With three starters out, Lowell struggled against Greenville on Friday night, losing 66-47.

The game started with

Greenville getting the jump ball, but Lowell played great defense. That possession lasted one minute and Greenville wasn't able to

score. Lowell stole the ball and Kyle Rogers got fouled on his shot, sinking one of two free throws, making the score 1-0 with 6:15 left to go

in the first quarter. Greenville came back and took the lead at the end of that quarter, 15-8.

Lowell kept it within reach through the second quarter, making it 29-21 and Greenville came on strong in the third quarter, stretching their lead to 16, with the score at 50-34.

The fourth quarter, Greenville outmatched Lowell, ending the game with a final score of 66-47. Lowell never gave up, though, as at one point, they were down by 28 points in the fourth quarter. They rallied late in the fourth quarter, but just ran out of time.



Lowell's Alec Roerig out-jumps Greenville's Austin Somerfield.



Shannon Massey defends his position.

Boys' basketball, continued, page 11

Red Arrow SPORTS

- GYMNASTICS SCORES

MEET:
Lowell 132.2
Rockford 135.575

Vault
Meghan Plutschouw 8.75
Lauren DeHaan 8.7
Bailey Roberts 8.6
Abby Rogalke 8.575

Bars
Bailey Roberts 8.325
Kaezi Bladey 8.05
Abby Rogalke 7.825
Lauren DeHaan 7.35

Beam
Lauren DeHaan 8.2
Abby Rogalke 8.1
Colleen Cater 7.8
Kaezi Bladey 7.7

Floor
Abby Rogalke 8.725
Bailey Roberts 8.65
Meghan Plutschouw 8.575
Lauren DeHaan 8.475

MEET:
Lowell 130.825
East Kentwood 119.0

Vault
Meghan Plutschouw 8.675
Lauren DeHaan 8.575
Abby Rogalke 8.5
Bailey Roberts 8.45

Bars
Bailey Roberts 8.25
Kaezi Bladey 8.1
Lauren DeHaan 7.55
Abby Rogalke 7.5

Beam
Lauren DeHaan 8.875
Bailey Roberts 8.3
Kaezi Bladey 8.0
Colleen Cater 7.925

Floor
Abby Rogalke 8.275
Bailey Roberts 8.1
Lauren DeHaan 8.025
Kaezi Bladey 7.725

MEET:
Final Conference standings
1st Kenowa Hills/
Grandville (combined team)
2nd Forest Hills Central/
Northern/Eastern
(combined team)
3rd tie between Lowell and
Rockford/Sparta
(combined team)
4th East Kentwood

Vault
Meghan Plutschouw
8.85/4th place
Bethany Kaczanowski 8.75
Abby Rogalke 8.65
Lauren DeHaan 8.55

Bars
Bailey Roberts 8.1
Kaezi Bladey 7.95
Lauren DeHaan 7.55
Meghan Plutschouw 7.3

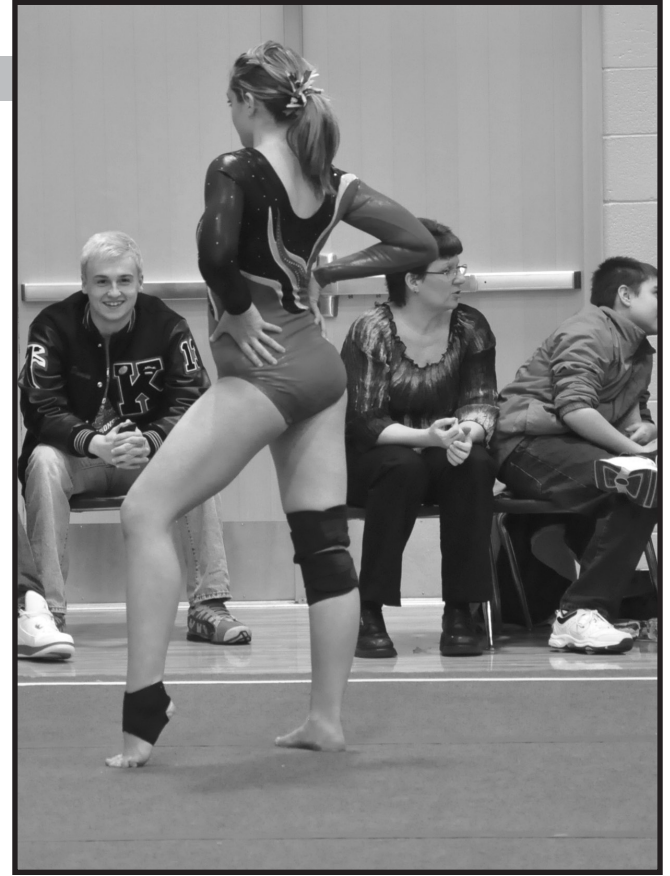
Beam
Lauren DeHaan 8.4
Kaezi Bladey 7.925
Bailey Roberts 7.85
Bethany Kaczanowski 7.75

Floor
Lauren DeHaan 8.6
Bethany Kaczanowski 8.6
Kaezi Bladey 8.55
Meghan Plutschouw 8.5

All Around
Lauren DeHaan 33.1
Kaezi Bladey 32.875
Bethany Kaczanowski
31.95
Abby Rogalke 31.8

Lauren DeHaan earned
All Conference Honors
Kaezi Bladey earned
All Conference
Honorable Mention

*The next meet is the
Dawn Fisher Division 3
Championship meet
at Runciman this
Saturday at noon.*



Above, Meghan Plutschouw during floor exercises and, below, Bailey Roberts on the beam.



*Top All Around Lowell
gymnast Abby Rogalke*

*Top All Around
Bailey Roberts*

Go Arrows!

2012 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE

Lowell Charter Township
2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
Lowell, Mi. 49331

2012 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Lowell Township Board of Review for 2012
will be held at the Lowell Township Hall,
2910 Alden Nash Ave SE, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 6, 2012 at 10 a.m. = Organizational Meeting

Monday, March 12, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 12 noon & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

&

Thursday, March 15, 2012

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as
deemed necessary to hear questions, protests,
and to equalize the 2012 assessments.

**By board resolution, residents are allowed to protest by letter,
provided protest letter is received prior to March 15.**

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class
of real property and personal property for 2012 are as follows:

Agricultural.....	50.04.....	0.9992
Commercial.....	51.17.....	0.9771
Residential.....	50.96.....	0.9811
Industrial.....	51.94.....	0.9626
Personal.....	50.00.....	1.0000

American with Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The Township will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals
with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 2 days notice.

**Contact: Supervisor Jerry Hale, 2910 Alden Nash Ave SE
616-897-7600**

Board of Review Members,
Barbara Tremblay, Lisa Reed & James Foerch.
Jerry Hale, Township Supervisor, Secretary of Board of Review.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

4	2	3	7	8	1	9	5	6
7	8	1	9	6	5	2	3	4
5	9	6	3	4	2	8	7	1
9	5	4	2	1	8	3	6	7
2	6	7	5	3	9	1	4	8
1	3	8	6	7	4	5	2	9
3	4	2	1	9	6	7	8	5
6	1	5	8	2	7	4	9	3
8	7	9	4	5	3	6	1	2



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for a Quote*

The Lowell Ledger
105 N. Broadway, 897-9261

Red Arrow SPORTS

-HOCKEY

Lowell/Caledonia scores decisively

This past weekend, the Lowell/Caledonia (LC) hockey team only had one important game on the schedule. An important game in the conference for the team and at the same time an important game for the community.

LC's "Purple Game" supports "Community for a Cure" along with the Van Andel Institute. Each player from both teams wore a jersey with someone else's name on it to honor a person who is battling or has survived cancer.

At the conclusion of the game, each player presented the worn game jersey to the person they were skating for. "The players [on my team] wanted to do something for the community

and thought this would be a great thing to bring a community together to help out a cause," said coach Tim Beurer.

"All of the money raised during this event [will] go to help fund cancer research at Van Andel Institute. I am happy to report that at this time, we were able to raise \$8,500 for cancer research," he added.

A win during this game would secure a conference championship in Tier 3 - a team goal at the start of the season. The arena was completely full with spectators from both teams and they were not disappointed.

The first period started out quick for LC. LC controlled the play of the first period where they played

predominantly in the GR Christian (GRC) half of the ice. Five minutes into the first period, Bailey Rietman (JR-CAL) got the first goal of the game from a couple of passes by Collin Finkhouse (JR-LOW) and Eric Balut (JR-CAL). LC would continue the pressure and outshoot GR Christian 11-1 in the first period.

In the second period, GRC had a quick start when they scored the first goal just sixteen seconds into the game.

LC would answer that goal two minutes later when Jake Rossman (JR-CAL) would find the back of the net from a pass by Justin Pinto (SO-CAL). LC scored another goal when Colin Echelbarger (SR-CAL) got

one past the GRC netminder, Jake Stille, with assists by Jake Roetman (JR-CAL) and Pinto. LC held onto a two-goal lead for the next six or seven minutes before Cam Steger (SR-CAL) got an unassisted goal to give LC a 4-1 lead in the period. GRC continued to battle in the period and got two late period goals to cut into the LC lead. The second period would end with LC leading GRC 4-3.

"During the second intermission, I reminded the players what was at stake in this game and to control their emotions. We were playing good hockey. However, we had to continue to work on the little things that make us successful," said the coach.

The third period started with LC scoring quickly and often. Kyle Jansens (SR-CAL) scored with an assist

from Steger in the first three minutes, giving LC a two-goal lead.

The team was playing well at both ends of the ice. Braden McGillicuddy (SR-LOW) would score the next LC goal of the period from a pass by Rossman at the six-minute mark of the period. Just over ten minutes into the period, Rietman would find the back of the net again from a pass by Andrew Light (SR-LOW). LC got another goal sixty-eight seconds later when Finkhouse scored on a pass from Balut. Rossman would score the final LC goal of the game from passes by Pinto and Steger.

GRC would get a late third period goal. However, the damage was already done.

At the sound of the final horn of the third period, LC saw themselves beating

GRC 9-4 after scoring five goals in the third period to put the game away.

This win secured a conference championship for the LC hockey team with one conference game remaining.

"It goes without saying how proud I am of my team. They worked hard and were determined to get that win on this special night at the Kentwood Ice Arena," exclaimed Beurer.

As they enter the final week of the season, there are two games left to play. The team will travel to Kalamazoo for a game against Mat-tawan on Friday night at the Wings-Annex arena starting at 7:45 pm.

The regular season will closeout on Saturday at the Kentwood Ice Arena with the final home game of the season against West Ottawa starting at 4 pm.

Boys' basketball, continued

High scorers for Lowell were Alec Roerig with 17 and Jason Malling with eight. Roerig also had six rebounds.

"With the missing guys, every kid played hard tonight. They went out there with the intensity I wanted and it was great to see. They never gave up and worked hard until the end," said head coach Kyle Carhart.

Lowell suspended three of their basketball players for three games, due to an incident at their game from last Tuesday against Holland that involved players from both Holland and Lowell.

Added to that, spectators came out of the stands on to the basketball floor escalating the incident.

"Both Holland and Lowell were at fault at Tuesday night's incident and we are working together with Holland to make sure this doesn't happen again," said Barry Hobrla, athletic director for Lowell Schools.

The boys will face Creston at 7:45 pm on Friday (Feb. 24) at Creston.

Girls' basketball, continued

possession of the ball and securing the win for the Arrows.

High scorer was Stephanie Stevens with 11. Amber Martin had 10 points, sinking three three-point baskets in the game and Lauren Kurtz had seven points, with nine rebounds. At the line, Lowell made 13 of 16 free-throws, with Stephanie Stevens going for a perfect six for six.

"Considering all the mental aspects, with the referees late and it being senior night for Greenville, we did pretty well. Our team matured a lot this game and played well in the second half. With all the turnovers in the game by both sides, they didn't turn it over when it counted," commented head coach, Kevin Brechting.

"They played hard against a very good team with a great record. This win secured third place in the conference for us," added Brechting.

The girls will face Creston on Friday (Feb. 24) at Creston, with a 6:00 pm start time.



Kyle Rogers blows past his Greenville opponents.



Amber Martin goes up for a shot.



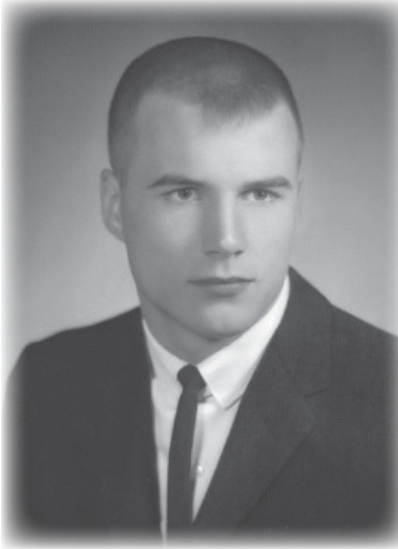
obituaries

BLOUGH

Beulah Esther (Fahrni) Blough, of Lowell, went to be with her Lord and Savior on February 17, 2012, at the age of 96. She was preceded in death by her husband of 70 years, Lester; son, Terry; daughter-in-law, Alice Blough; and sons-in-law, Wellman Darling and Richard Chaterdon. Surviving are her children, Diana Chaterdon, Sandra (Jerry) Holton, Jake (Grace) Blough, Donna (Norman) Dawson, and Roger (Tammy) Blough; 17 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. Services were held Tuesday. Memorial contributions can be made to Lowell Food Pantry or WCSG 91.3, 1159 E Beltline, Grand Rapids, MI 49525.

BORG

Mr. John Frederick Borg II passed away on Friday, February 17, 2012, while surrounded by his loving family. He lost his fight with cancer after 65 wonderful years of life. John is survived by his wife of 47 years, Marea (Streeter) Borg; children, Suzanne (Dean) Olin, Kimberly (Dan) Morrison, John (Emily) Borg III, and Jenny Borg; grandchildren, Morgan and Dylan Olin, Nathan Morrison; and one grandchild, (Morrison) expected March 1, 2012; sister, Sharron (Kirk) Keeler and their children, Kent (Suzanne) Keeler and Kristin Keeler. John had a long and successful sales career, enjoyed all sports, particularly golf, and traveling to his beloved state of Wyoming. His wit and wisdom will be missed by all. The service for Mr. Borg was held Tuesday, February 21 at Vergennes United Methodist Church with Pastor Matthew Stoll officiating. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the Pink Arrow Project, c/o Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Lowell, MI 49331. Arrangements were entrusted to The Pederson Funeral Home, Rockford.



GUNNINK

Rachel Faye Gunnink, age 58, of Alto, passed away Tuesday, February 14, 2012, from cancer. She was born to Richard and Ruth (Farowe) Gunnink on July 15, 1953, in Minnesota. After graduating from Calvin College in 1975, she worked for several years at Flowerland and Eastern Floral. In 1997 she opened her own business, Flower Farm, just outside of Alto. She had a gift for choosing and growing unique plants which her customers at the Fulton Street Market appreciated. Rachel is survived by three sisters; two brothers; her beloved nieces, Ellen and Laurie Reitsema; as well as friends and neighbors who generously and lovingly cared for her throughout her illness. A celebration of her life was held at Bowne Center, United Methodist Church, Saturday, February 18, 2012. Contributions in Rachel's memory can be made to Hospice of Michigan, 989 Spaulding SE, Ada, MI 49301 or Boulder Ridge Wild Animal Park, 8313 Pratt Lake, Alto, MI 49302. To sign Rachel's online guestbook, send a message of condolence or share a favorite memory please visit www.MichiganCremation.com Arrangements were entrusted to Michigan Cremation Company, Grand Rapids.



CARD OF THANKS

The family of Harold Carigon Jr., would like to thank everyone for their prayers, kind words, visits, flowers, memorial gifts, and food. A special thank you to Dr. Christenson and staff at Lowell Family Medical Center, Hospice of Michigan, Pastor Nate Gray, the women of the Elmdale Church of the Nazarene for the wonderful service and luncheon, and Roth Gerst for all their help and support.

NOTICE VERGENNES TOWNSHIP 2012 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The Vergennes Township 2012 Board of Review will be held at the Vergennes Township Hall, 10381 Bailey Dr, Lowell, MI, 49331, on the following dates:

**Monday, March 12, 3 pm to 9 pm
and
Wednesday, March 14, 9 am to 3 pm**

You may appeal assessed valuation one of two ways:

- 1) To appear at the Board of Review, call the offices at 616-897-5671 on Mondays or Wednesdays from 9 am to 3 pm to schedule an appointment.
- 2) You may send a letter of appeal (received prior to March 7, 2012) addressed to:

Vergennes Township Assessor
10831 Bailey Dr., PO Box 208
Lowell, MI 49331

Mari C. Stone
Vergennes Township Clerk

BOWNE TOWNSHIP NOTICE BOARD OF REVIEW

THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF BOWNE TOWNSHIP WILL MEET IN THE NEW TOWNSHIP OFFICE BUILDING – 8240 ALDEN NASH SE., ALTO ON:

**TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2012 1:00 P.M.
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon
1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012
1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.**

**&
6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
(NOTE THE EVENING HOURS
ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING THE TAX ROLL AND HEARING ALL CLAIMS. YOU MAY APPEAL YOUR ASSESSED VALUATION ONE OF (2) WAYS: BY LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE BOWNE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR AND RECEIVED BY HIM PRIOR TO MARCH 6, 2012 OR BY APPEARING IN PERSON ON ONE OF THE DATES THE BOARD OF REVIEW MEETS.

THE TENTATIVE REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT MULTIPLIER REQUIRED BY PA 165 OF 1971 ARE:

Agricultural Ratio	48.67	1.0273	Multiplier
Commercial Ratio	52.05	.9606	Multiplier
Industrial Ratio	61.30	.8157	Multiplier
Residential Ratio	52.57	.9511	Multiplier

DENNIS MCKELVEY-ASSESSOR
CHRISTIAN WENGER-SUPERVISOR
BOWNE TOWNSHIP

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO. 12-191674-DE

Estate of FRANK McKAY
BURTT, deceased. Date
of birth: 12/16/1933.

02/15/2012

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS: The
decendent, Frank McKay
Burt, who lived at
7378 Hallridge NE,
Belding, Michigan, died
01/13/2012.

personal representative
or proposed personal
representative, or to
both the probate court
at 180 Ottawa Avenue
NW, Grand Rapids, MI
49503 and the named/
proposed personal
representative within 4
months after the date
of publication of this
notice.

R. John Stephan
(P71686)
3875 W. River Dr.
PO Box 327
Comstock Park, MI 49321
616-784-5080

Jeffrey S. Burt
4611 Sear Wood Ct NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525
616-447-2527

Creditors of the
decendent are notified
that all claims against
the estate will be forever
barred unless presented
to Jeffrey S. Burt &
William F. Burt, named

William F. Burt
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Lowell, MI 49331
616-897-5546

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EARTH TALK™

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: How is it that global warming could negatively impact water supplies in the U.S.? - Penny Wilcox, Austin, TX

Climate change promises to have a very big impact on water supplies in the United States as well as around the world. A recent study commissioned by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), a leading environmental group, and carried out by the consulting firm Tetra Tech found that one out of three counties across the contiguous U.S. should brace for water shortages by mid-century as a result of human induced climate change. The group found

that 400 of these 1,100 or so counties will face “extremely high risks of water shortages.”

According to Tetra Tech’s analysis, parts of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas will be hardest hit by warming-related water shortages. The agriculturally focused Great Plains and arid Southwest are at highest risk of increasing water demand outstripping fast dwindling supplies.

While the mechanisms behind this predicted dwindling of water supplies is complex, key factors include: rising sea levels and encroaching ocean water absorbing lower elevation freshwater sources; rising surface temperatures causing faster evaporation of existing reservoirs; and increasing wildfires stripping terrestrial landscapes of their ability to retain water in soils.

Researchers have already begun to notice dwindling water supplies across the American West in recent years, given less accumulation of snow in the region’s mountains as temperatures rise. According to a 2008 study out of the Scripps Institute for Oceanography and published in the journal Science, Western snowpack has been melting earlier than it did in the past thanks to global warming, leading to markedly longer dry periods through the late spring and summer months in states already suffering from extended droughts. Given that the length and strength of these changes over the last 50 years cannot be explained by natural variations, researchers believe human induced climate change is the culprit.

The upshot of these changes is that Americans of every stripe need to curtail their water usage — from farmers irrigating their crops to homeowners watering their lawns to you and I taking shorter showers and turning off the tap while brushing our teeth. Even more important, water and resource policy managers need to conceive of new paradigms for the management of freshwater reserves to make the most of what we do have. And all of us need to work together to cut down on the emissions of greenhouse gases that have led to global warming in the first place.

Analysts also worry that warming-related water shortages could erupt into conflict, especially in parts of the world where one country or group controls water resources needed by others across national borders, such as the Mid-

dle East where already five percent of the world’s population relies on just one percent of the world’s fresh water. Parts of Africa, India and Asia are also at risk for water-related conflicts. American policymakers hope that the situation won’t get that dire in the U.S., but only time will tell.

CONTACTS: NRDC, www.nrdc.org; Tetra Tech, www.tetrattech.com; Scripps Institute for Oceanography, www.sio.ucds.edu.

Dear EarthTalk: Ever since the red dye #2 scare in the 1970s I’ve been wary of using food colorings or buying food that appears to contain them. Are there natural and healthy food colorings? - Nancy McFarlane, Methuen, MA

Many of us are still wary of food dyes because of reports about links between red dye #2 and cancer in the 1970s. While red dye #2 was subsequently banned from products sold in the United States, many health-conscious consumers continue to avoid foods with other artificial colors or dyes — even though the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) still considers them safe for human consumption.

But a 2010 analysis of past research on links between food dyes and health by the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) found compelling evidence that ingestion of artificial dyes can contribute to hyperactivity, restlessness and attention problems in some children — particularly those with ADHD. “What’s more, the studies suggested that removing dyes from those children’s diet was a quarter to half as effective in reducing those symptoms as giving the kids Ritalin or other stimulants,” reports Nancy Cordes, CBS News’ Consumer Safety Correspondent. “In other words, certain kids with ADHD might not need drugs if the artificial dyes were removed from their diets.” Several commonly used artificial food dyes are suspected carcinogens as well.

While it might be impossible to prevent your children from eating anything with artificial dye, you can do your part by shopping at Whole Foods or Trader Joe’s — both chains have banned products that use artificial dyes.

One brand to look for is India Tree, which makes a line of food coloring derived from vegetable colorants.

Another company specializing in natural (as well as organic) food colors is Nature’s Flavors, whose products are widely used commercially in ice cream, baked goods, frosting, dairy products, syrups, sauces, beverages and even hair colors. The company recently began to sell their products to consumers, as well,

through retail stores. They use a variety of plant materials, including beets, turmeric root, annatto seeds, purple carrot, purple cabbage, gardenia flowers, hibiscus flowers and grape skin.

In the meantime, concerned eaters should stick with products, stores and restaurants that use natural ingredients.

CONTACTS: India Tree, www.indiatree.com; Nature’s Flavors, www.naturesflavors.com; CPSI’s “Food Dyes: A Rainbow of Risks,” www.cspinet.org/new/pdf/food-dyes-rainbow-of-risks.pdf.

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PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF LOWELL

2012 BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE

The City of Lowell Board of Review for 2012 will be held at the Lowell City Hall, 301 E. Main St, on the following dates:

Organizational Meeting: Tuesday, March 6th, 10:00 am

Appeal Hearings:

Tuesday, March 13th, 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Thursday, March 15th, 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests and to equalize the 2012 assessments

By City Charter, residents are able to protest by letter, provided protest letter is received prior to March 6th 2012

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2012 are as follows:

Commercial.....	52.33%.....	0.9555
Residential.....	53.23%.....	0.9393
Industrial.....	49.34%.....	1.0134
Personal Property.....	50.00%.....	1.0000

Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Notice

The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon 3 days notice.
Contact: Mark Howe – City Manager, ph. 616.897.8457





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- ACROSS**
1. Three square ones a day
 6. Feline sound
 9. Slope or hillside
 13. Muslim God
 14. Spermatozoa counterpart
 15. "Little Deuce _____," song
 16. _____ Boothe Luce
 17. "Lake" in Provence
 18. Taken by server
 19. *Where most Presidents went to college
 21. *He was famously Catholic
 23. "He _____ and drank the precious words..."
 24. Fool
 25. Toy maker
 28. "The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical"
 30. Interstellar cloud
 35. Like sinister side in "Star Wars"
 37. Mountain goat terrain
 39. Ranked or graded
 40. Used in fencing
 41. Luciano Pavarotti, e.g.
 43. Actress _____ Sofer
 44. "Your Body Is a Wonderland" performer
 46. _____ Lee
 47. Hat part
 48. Popular flowering shrub
 50. Do over
 52. Feared by illegal immigrants
 53. "Far and _____" the best
 55. It fought British rule

57. Like a snake
61. *Tallest President
65. Hoppity-like board game
66. *35 is the minimum _____
68. Embryo sacs
69. Type of flu
70. Chewbacca's sidekick
71. Like yellow polka dot bikini
72. Not nice
73. R&R spot
74. Plural of suffix denoting female

- DOWN**
1. One of these is approximately equal to speed of sound

2. Famous female scat singer
3. Having or resembling wings
4. Caterpillar precursor
5. Holder for #40 Across
6. Result of dampness
7. Actress Longoria
8. Mad or crazy
9. *Pres. Coolidge was "_____ on the Fourth of July"
10. Ill-mannered
11. Imitated
12. Suggestive of supernatural
15. Talk it over
20. Respond
22. Longest division of geological time
24. Grain storage
25. Organ swelling
26. Largest city in Bolivia
27. Goddess of love, Norse mythology
29. Wraths

31. Aggressive remark
32. Wombs
33. Most famous Bolshevik?
34. *First White House inhabitant
36. _____ over
38. *He won popular but lost electoral vote
42. Exact halves of diameters
45. *Oldest elected President
49. Hole punching tool
51. Like baroque
54. Indian nursemaids
56. Highest points
57. It featured George Michael
58. Enthusiastic review
59. Hipbones
60. FBI agent
61. River in Siberia
62. Singles
63. Drawn in the sand?
64. They oppose the yeahs
67. Generation _____



FEBRUARY 15 - FEBRUARY 21

- Retired astronaut Mark Kelly, who collaborated with his wife, former U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, on her memoir, is writing a children's book about a mouse that goes to space. "Mousetronaut" will be illustrated by C.F. Payne.
- Harvard grad Jeremy Lin, of "Linsanity" fame for his remarkable handling of the ball for the New York Knicks asks for some space for his not-so-media hungry relative. "The special request I have is for the media back in Taiwan to give (my family) space, because they can't even go to work without being bombarded, without people following them," Lin said at Madison Square Garden.
- Elsewhere, basketball great Allen Iverson, has fallen on hard times and is hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt. An indoor soccer team is offering him a position that might help him earn a little cash to help out.
- Euro zone finance ministers are closer to approving a second bailout for debt-laden Greece with hopes that it would resolve Athens' immediate repayment needs. It seems unlikely to revive the nation's shattered economy.
- 48-year-old Whitney Houston was laid to rest in New Jersey. Kevin Costner, Alicia Keys, Stevie Wonder and her longtime mentor, Clive Davis, all presented eulogies at the funeral. The New Jersey governor ordered flags flown at half-staff which caused some controversy.
- People from battle-scarred Misrata, Libya, lined up to vote in their first free election. A standard may be set for the rest of the country as it prepares for national polls in June.
- A 45-year-old Swedish man survived two months in temperatures that were as low as 22 degrees below zero trapped inside his car beneath the snow. He was found by snowmobilers, had no food and survived by drinking the melted snow.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Crossword solution on page 7
Sudoku solution on page 10

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Northern Michigan pizza favorite opens in Ada

When Scott Kreger was looking for a third location for Papa K's Pizza, a favorite stop for summer residents in Mancelona and Bellaire, he didn't have to look any further than Ada where a large percentage of the summer tourists live.

When his longtime friend, Tom Krause, recently moved to the Ada area, Kreger had the perfect person to open the first downstate store. The Ada location also becomes Papa K's

first franchise store with Krause as the owner.

Located in the Pettis Avenue Plaza at the corner of Pettis and M-21, Papa K's offers delivery and dine-in. "I feel this location on the east side of the river offers customers a quick alternative to driving into Lowell or Ada," says Krause.

With a wide variety of pizzas on hand-tossed, fresh dough, Papa K's has something to satisfy the palate of even the hard-core pizza

connoisseur. They also offer a large selection of oven roasted subs, homemade salads, as well as pasta and Mexican dishes on the menu.

Judging from the lunch time crowd on a recent afternoon, it appears that Krause has found the perfect location.

Tom Krause at the new Papa K's Pizza.



Winter guard teams place high at Livonia competition

On Saturday, Feb. 18, the Lowell competitive winter guard teams traveled to Livonia Franklin High School for their second regular season competition of the season. Both guard teams had great performances and made significant point gains since their home show at Lowell High School on Jan. 21.

Almost Home placed second in Junior Regional A Class and Exit 52 placed second in Independent A.

Both guard teams travel to Troy Athens this Saturday, Feb. 25, for their third competition of the regular season with the Michigan Color Guard circuit.



Exit 52, front row, left to right: Audrey McKay, Kayleigh Davies, Jordan Kazen, Danielle Bagin, and Riley Breimayer; back row, left to right: Amanda Willson, Jenna Saunders, Rachel Phelps, Rachael Yomtoob, Kayla Blough, and Mackenzie Bush.



Almost Home, front row, left to right: Nathan Barrett, Autumn French, Abby Green, Katie Peterson, Shelley Bailey, Sylvia Hawley, and Madisen Schram; middle row, left to right: Greta Gustafson, Ally Stockreef, Brianna Homrich, Elese Carey, Emma Stockreef, Joley Bem, and Brittany Richards; back row, left to right: Kayeleigh Lubbers, Jessica Barrett, Corrina Wenger, Morgan Allison, KaRae Roscoe, Hayden Hoffman, and Erica Nelson.

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March 14 | 6pm | Lowell Arts! | FREE
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